



May 2011

[Nebraska Department of Education](#)

Office of Multicultural/Native
American Education

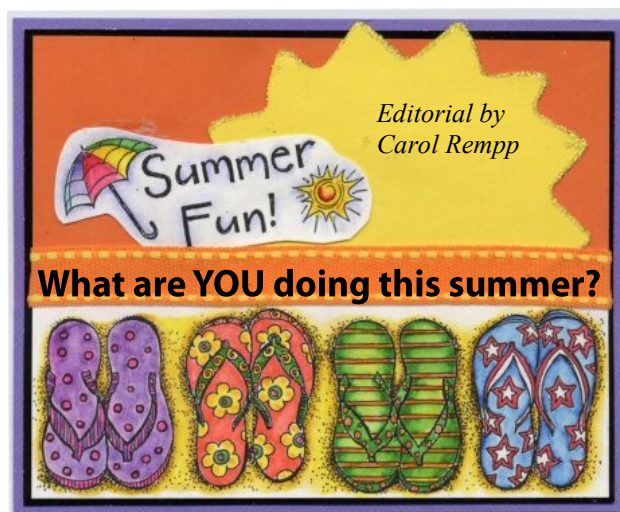
www.education.ne.gov/mce

Summer is always a great time of year for both teachers and students. I know well enough not to say that it is “time off” for teachers because it never felt like time off for me. It is however a change in schedule and that was always refreshing for me. I had time to take college courses, attend workshops, create new programs for use in my classroom the next year or, like many other educators, work a second job. I think the last totally carefree summer I had was when I was about 9 or 10. That doesn’t mean that summer hasn’t always been an adventure. Even now that I work at one job year round the idea of summer is exciting. Now I look forward to the time when my nieces come to visit, the family camping trip, Fourth of July weekend and, if I’m lucky, a vacation trip somewhere.

As I’ve traveled the state this year I’ve been thinking of staying close to home this summer for vacation. There are so many interesting places to see

here in Nebraska and although I criss-cross the state regularly since it’s for work I don’t often have time to stop and explore. With that idea in mind I thought it would be good to suggest to our readers ideas for how to enjoy the summer and integrate cultural events or locations of cultural interest into their summers.

Nebraska has such a rich and diverse history. Our state is dotted with State Historical Parks and National Parks. From Ft. Robinson in the Northwest to Arbor Lodge in the Southeast, no matter what part of the state you live in there is sure to be an interesting park or monument close to you. Check out the “Great Park Pursuit” activity on the Nebraska Game & Parks website. How can you challenge your students to take part in this and make it a learning activity to incorporate into your classroom for next year? If they can’t actually visit every site there



is also a link to virtual tours. And if your students don’t have a computer at home, encourage them to visit their local public library for both internet access and to find many amazing books.

We’ve filled this newsletter with dates and places for all kinds of summer fun. There are many learning activities for teachers and students alike! Have a great summer and look for the return of *The Drum* in August with our Back to School edition.



<http://www.equityallianceatasu.org/>

Culturally Responsive Behavior Supports

Students need to feel physically and emotionally safe before they can focus their attention on actively participating in their own learning. Today many teachers and school administrators are often challenged to meet the diverse social and behavioral needs demonstrated by students. As the demographics have changed within many school communities, educators have struggled with proactively addressing the behavioral and social needs of an increasingly diverse population of students for a variety of individual and organizational reasons. One, among many, is that approaches to school discipline have traditionally been punitive. These ineffective measures have done little to teach new behaviors and have frequently contributed to school failure for countless students throughout the US. School administrators, teachers, families, and students have the immense, shared responsibility of creating and sustaining safe and orderly learning environments where students are empowered to safely share their opinions and perspectives. These strategies are used at individual, classroom, and school levels to prevent and intervene culturally, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. This collective endeavor is vital to improving learning outcomes for ALL students.

Punishing problem behaviors is associated with increases in aggression, vandalism, truancy, and dropping out. Many schools have initiated comprehensive approaches to developing positive social and academic behaviors to avoid punitive responses that often exclude students from academic learning. These strategies used as individual, classroom, and school levels to prevent and intervene culturally, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. Commonly used frameworks, such as Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS), are useful for achieving important social and learning outcomes. However, it is critical to consider how culture influences social and emotional responses and behaviors as well as filters behavioral expectations for both students and adults in schools. Most frameworks in use today reflect the norms and values of the dominant culture within schools and do not attend to the historic and emerging norms and values of students and families within the learning community. Cultural and linguistic nuances must be considered in proactive and culturally responsive discipline approaches so that student engagement and communication patterns are co-constructed with students and families (King, Harris-Murri, & Artiles, 2006).

When significant differences exist between school and community cultures, teachers can misinterpret students' behavior as disobedient, disrespectful or disorderly. Schools and other communities of practice define normative ways of belonging, including acceptable forms of behavior, which often place students in the difficult position of negotiating new identities that signal membership (Artiles & Kozleski, 2007). In fact, studies show that students of color are referred for disciplinary actions most often for subjective behaviors like disrespect, excessive noise or loitering, while white students are most often referred for infractions like smoking or obscene language, behaviors that tend not

to rely on subjective interpretation (Skiba et al., 2000). Adults in schools must build awareness of their own culture, particularly beliefs and values, in order to recognize the impact of their expectations for student behavior and understand how they might begin to negotiate spaces in which both adults and students can find new norms together (White, Zion, & Kozleski, 2005). Cultural differences affect how behaviors are interpreted by everyone as well as burden students and families with making subtle and overt shifts in their behavior when school behavior codes are not transparent. Further, because the power for making these judgments often falls to school personnel who may not understand or be conscious of the relational nature of their cultural stances, behavior issues are often magnets for conflict among and between students, families, and school personnel. Where cultural differences exist, but are not adequately considered, school personnel, families, and students may exacerbate conflict rather than help to defuse and redirect and negotiate new norms.

Culturally responsive behavior supports situate positive behavior prevention and intervention strategies within an equity framework and include frameworks for systemic planning about how to:

- ✓ Create inclusive and equitable communities.
- ✓ Cultivate school cultures that are respectful of the histories of students and adults and responsive to cultural norms of the students;
- ✓ Prevent problems from occurring by including the entire learning community in explicitly developing and learning school-wide expectations;
- ✓ Intervene effectively when issues surface using strategies that support the cultural perspectives of the people involved;
- ✓ Provide students with supports for learning and demonstrating expected behaviors at all levels of need.

Artiles, A. & Kozleski, E.B. (2007). Beyond Convictions: Interrogating Culture, History, and Power in Inclusive Education
King, K., Harris-Murri, N., Artiles, A. (2006). [Proactive Culturally Responsive Discipline](#). National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems

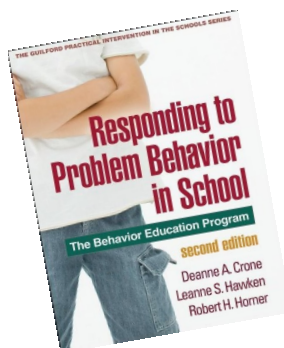
Skiba, R.J., Michael, R.S., & Nardo, A.C. (2000, June). The color of discipline: Sources of racial and gender disproportionality in school punishment. The Indiana Policy Center Research Report.

White, K.K., Zion, S. & Kozleski, E.B. (2005). [Cultural Identity and Teaching](#). National Institute for Urban School Improvement.

Read the Multicultural Book Review

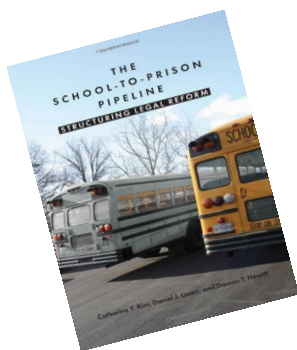
Responding to Problem Behavior in Schools: The Behavior Education Program

by Deanne A. Crone, Robert H. Horner, and Leanne S. Hawken is a proactive, research-based intervention for responding to moderate problem behavior and preventing the development of more serious problems. For use with students who fail to meet schoolwide disciplinary expectations but do not require the highest level of behavior support. The approach incorporates daily behavioral feedback, positive adult attention, and increased home-school collaboration. Includes case examples and all needed resources for implementation - including reproducible daily progress reports, student handouts, and planning tools. ISBN: 978-1-60623-600-0, paperback 129 pages



The School-to-Prison-Pipeline: Structuring Legal Reform

The "school-to-prison pipeline" is an emerging trend that pushes large numbers of at-risk youth-particularly children of color-out of classrooms and into the juvenile justice system. In this comprehensive study of the relationship between American law, and the school-to-prison pipeline, co-authors Catherine Y. Kim, Daniel J. Losen, and Damon T. Hewitt-all civil rights attorneys specializing in juvenile justice-analyze the current state of the law for each entry point on the pipeline and propose legal theories and remedies to challenge them. The authors assert that law can be an effective weapon in ensuring that our public

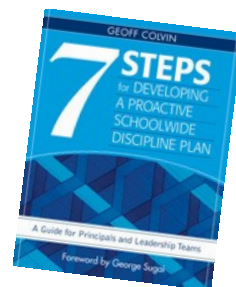


schools and juvenile justice system further the goals for which they were created: to provide meaningful, safe opportunities for all the nation's children. ISBN: 0814748430, hard cover

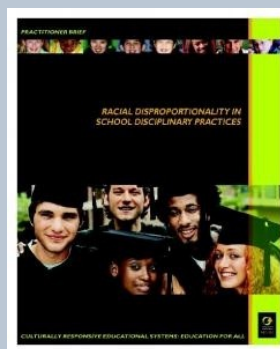
7 Steps for Developing a Proactive Schoolwide Discipline Plan

by Geoff

Colvin, contains a full range of effective behavior management practices to help educators develop a strong, affirming school environment that successfully serves students and staff. Emphasizing the critical roles that collaboration and teamwork play in achieving success, this powerful resource presents a seven-step process to assist administrators and teachers in working together to develop and implement a practical and proactive schoolwide discipline plan. This guidebook is filled with practical checklists and user-friendly forms that include explicit instructions to help educators: define the purpose of the plan; establish schoolwide behavior expectations; teach and sustain behavior expectations; correct problem behaviors; collect and utilize data; and maintain the plan over time. ISBN 9781412950985 paperback 152 pages



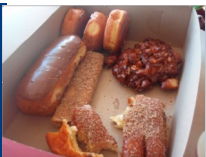
Racial Disproportionality in School Disciplinary Practices



Racial disproportionality in school disciplinary practices has a long history, and still continues today. This brief discusses zero-tolerance policies and their disproportionate use with low SES and minority students.

Request free permission to download the PDF files at Equity Alliance.

OR follow this [LINK](#)



High five to the person that brings Friday treats.

You request it and we are delivering it. Cultural events in Nebraska for the summer of 2011. Don't forget Nebraska history. The State Parks and National Parks in Nebraska have a full schedule. Below are a few of the events.

Nebraska Events for the Summer

Fort Atkinson State Historical Park—Living History Days

Each weekend from April-October Ft. Atkinson volunteers portray life at an 1820's military fort. Interpretive hours at the visitor's center will be from 10am-5pm. A valid NE state park entry permit is required. Ft. Atkinson State Historical Park is located near Fort Calhoun, NE. For more information you may call 402-468-5611 or visit the website: <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/calendar/calendar.asp>



Ashfall Fossil Beds SHP

Ashfall SHP will conduct school and tour groups by special arrangement from April 1-October 20th with advance reservations. For details or to make reservations, call the park at 402-893-2000. Ashfall Fossil Beds, located near Royal, NE, are open to the public beginning May 1, 2011.

<http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/calendar/calendar.asp>

Nebraska State Parks with ties to Nebraska's cultural history:

Fort Kearny—near Kearney, NE
 Fort Robinson—near Crawford, NE
 Fort Hartsuff—near Burwell, NE
 Buffalo Bill Ranch—North Platte, NE
 Arbor Lodge—Nebraska City, NE
 Ash Hollow State Historical Park—near Lewellen, NE
 Bowring State Historical Park—near Merriman, NE
 Rock Creek Station Historical Park—near Fairbury, NE

75th Anniversary of
 National Park Service
 "Celebrating Our Heritage"
Homestead Days-Beatrice
 June 17-19
 Parades, SCHOLARSHIP, triathlon
[PDF brochure download by clicking here](#) or
 visit the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce

Other great ways to enjoy Nebraska's State Parks!

Great Park Pursuit - Let the Activities Begin!

May 1, 2011 - Sept. 5, 2011

How it works – Visit any or all of the 20 local, state or federal parks participating, follow clues to locate a post to create a tracing of a nature impression, mail your impressions into the GPP office indicating the total parks visited. Entry into prize drawings are based on the number of impressions collected. So the more impressions you make the greater your opportunity to win. [Get more info >>](#)

How to get started – register online at www.negpp.org/register/ or request a packet and registration form by calling (402) 471-5424. Teams register as individuals, families, friends, coworkers, youth organizations, or any other group. Select a park from the 20 available on the Locations page at the website. Print off the park page and take it to that park. Follow the clues on the park page to locate post. Make a tracing of the impression. Plan your next GPP park trip.

Website to register and get further program info: www.negpp.org

Email: info@negpp.org **NGPC contact:** Tim Montgomery | [download the poster](#)

<http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/parks.asp> or search the parks of
 Nebraska at <http://www.nps.gov/applications/parksearch/state.cfm?st=NE>

Take a Tour of Nebraska without leaving home. A virtual tour from your computer.

<http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/parks/guides/tours/tours.asp>

A brief and informative tour of our state parks.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/NGPCnews?feature=mhsn#p/c/0/nonOpVgSyJ8>

Video
Tour

Celebrate Lincoln 2011

June 10-11

Cultural food, dance, arts, kids activities

<http://www.golincolngo.com/events/index.html?topic=detail&type=l&ei=201>

Polish Days Loup City

June 3-5. Ethnic festival, parade and cuisine

www.loupcity.com

12th Annual Intertribal Gathering Powwow Crawford

June 10-12, held at Fort Robinson

<http://www.panhandlercd.com>

Nebraskaland Days North Platte

June 11, 2011

<http://www.fairsandfestivals.net/events/details/nebraskaland-days1>

Dancers of the Plains Kearney

June 17-18, see more information in this newsletter

Juneteenth

Lincoln June 18

www.malonecenter.org

www.malonecenter.org

Omaha June 11-18

www.juneteenthnebraska.com

Considered the date the last slaves in America were freed.



Malone Center, Lincoln

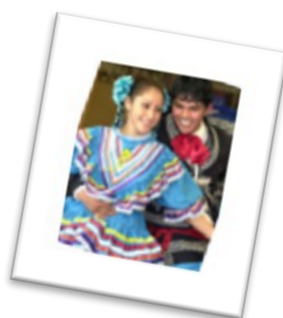
Central Nebraska Ethnic Festival

Grand Island

June 24-26

Contributions of diverse and unique people of Nebraska.

<http://giethnicfestival.org/>



Circle of the Bluffs Powwow

Scottsbluff

June 24-26

Join their Facebook page for more information or call 308-632-5100

Mexican Fiesta-North Platte

July 7-9. Queen coronation, dance, ethnic food.

Oregon Trail Days Gering

July 14-17

<http://www.fairsandfestivals.net/events/details/oregon-trail-days2>

Hispanic Heritage Festival-Lexington

September 10. Whole family event with carnival and entertainment

Czech Festivals

All summer long. For a complete state listing visit

http://www.omahaczechclub.com/uploads/2011_NE_Czech_Festivals.pdf



National Parks

[Agate Fossil Beds National Monument](#)

Harrison, NE

[Homestead National Monument of America](#)

Beatrice, NE

[California National Historic Trail](#)

Various States

[Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail](#)

Eleven States

[Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail](#)

Various States

[Niobrara National Scenic River](#)

Valentine, NE

[Oregon National Historic Trail](#)

Various States

[Scotts Bluff National Monument](#)

Gering, NE

[Pony Express National Historic Trail](#)

Various States

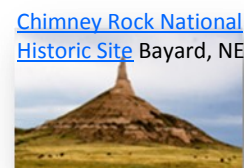
Follow the trail at

www.xphomestation.com/nesta.html



[Indian Caves State Park](#)

Falls City, NE



[Chimney Rock National Historic Site](#)

Bayard, NE





Children are unpredictable. You never know what inconsistency they're going to catch you in next.

Franklin P. Jones

Museum of Nebraska Art presents *Behind the Scenes*

May 10 – June 26, 2011

Taylor Cody, Stephanie Shields, Kyleigh Skaggs

Curators: Kearney High School

Organized by the Junior Curator Class and facilitated by the Museum of Nebraska Art, *Behind the Scenes* is an exhibition based on popular literature genres intended to explore the story behind the art. The artworks selected represent the different aspects of the literary story and encourage viewers to delve deeper into their own imaginations. On view are various pieces that embody the genres of drama, tragedy, adventure, mystery, comedy, and fantasy. The story revealed by the artist is often as intriguing as the piece itself. The story always varies: from the artist's personal life, to the subject matter, or to the mood of the piece; There is always much more than meets the eye.

Among the artists featured in the exhibition is world renowned Kent Bellows. Unlike his photo-realism work, *Vendetta* explores the fantasy genre with incredible battles between alien civilizations. The viewer sees another side to Bellows. Three other artists included are Terence Duren, Grant Reynard, and Myra Biggerstaff. Duren is known for his oil paintings of fantastic scenes from faraway places. Frequently painting for set designs, his work transports you into the heart of a play. Originally from Grand Island, Grant Reynard's entire studio was purchased by the Museum. From hundreds of pieces, his pastels stand out with his unique lighting style. Prominent woman artist, Myra Biggerstaff, creates visually interesting pieces that captivate the eye.

The Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney has not only the “Collection Connection” events (<http://monet.unk.edu/mona/programs.html>) but also will have a special exhibit during the Dancers of the Plains: <http://monet.unk.edu/mona/exhibitions.html>

A Pow-Wow of Art: Native American Works May 24 – August 21, 2011

The Museum of Nebraska Art features a group works from the permanent collection that were created by Native Americans. The Plains tribes have a tradition of expressing their cultures in artistic forms, and the pieces on view attest to the artistic sensitivities of these native artists.

You Are Now
Leaving
Nebraska




Experience the History

2011 Dancers of the Plains

June 17-18, 2011 Kearney, NE

Be part of a one-of-a-kind cultural event in Nebraska!

Cultural Education Day

Friday June 17, 2011 11:00 am—4:00 pm

Experience a unique opportunity to learn more about

Nebraska's history from the Otoe-Missouria Youth Leadership Initiative

Participants

Summer Schools, Home Schools and other Youth Organizations are welcome to attend with adult supervision

Camping

- Camping available at Fort Kearny Please call 308-865-5305

Food

- Food vendors will be available at the Archway during the powwow event

Friday June 17

- ^9:00 am Tipi raising
- ^10 am—11:00 Hands-on stations west of the earth lodge focus on Trail History and Settlement
- ^11 am—noon Hands-on stations in earth lodge and arena with Otoe-Missouria Youth*
- ^1:00—3:00 pm Dance demonstrations and explanations in arena

* from 10—11 am stations with Otoe-Missouria reserved for Boy Scouts working on Badge requirements

Saturday June 18

- ^Demonstrations and Vendors 9:00 am —4:00 pm
- ^ Dance Exhibition 1:00 pm—3:00 pm

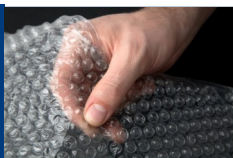
Contact Information:

Great Platte River Road Archway
 Ronnie O'Brien email: robrien@archway.org
 3060 East 1st St., Kearney NE 68847
 PH: 308-237-1000 www.archway.org

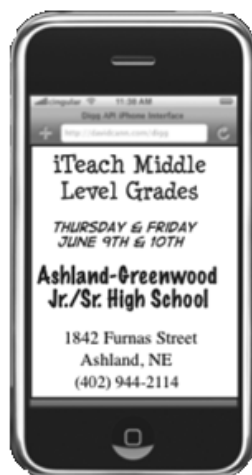
Cost: There is no cost to your organization to attend this event! Free-will Donations Are Appreciated.

Education Day June 17, General Public June 18

Visit the website at www.archway.org for daily activities.



Why can't anyone resist popping bubble wrap?



NEBRASKA *Middle Level* ACADEMY

Supporting Educators in Grades 4-9

June 9-10, 2011

www.nebraskamiddlelevelacademy.org

Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Roger Breed,

Nebraska Department of Education

Jessica Gall, Education Project Director

for the

Plains States Regional Anti-Defamation League



Application for Nebraska Teacher of the Year 2012

The Nebraska Awards of Excellence Program, which features selection of the Nebraska Teacher of the Year, serves to recognize the contributions of the classroom teacher. Candidates should be exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled teachers; have the respect and admiration of parents, colleagues, and students; play active and useful roles in the community as well as in the school; be poised and articulate; and possess the energy to withstand a busy schedule. The most important criterion is a superior ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn.

Deadline: August 15, 2011

http://www.education.ne.gov/documents/12_TOY_application_form.pdf

Mark your calendars

Latino Summit

September 26, 2011

Embassy Suites-LaVista

The SEPA workshops are:

1) The Science of Mental Illness and Healthy Behaviors: Teaching Native American Children about Psychological and Behavioral Health (Audience - middle and high school teachers, administrators, counselors)

2) SEPA Science Teacher Workshop: Focus on Outdoor Education (Audience - K-8 teachers)

Dates for both are June 13 to 17. More information and sign ups at www.unmc.edu/sepa

No charge. Stipends and expenses paid by SEPA.



21st Century Teaching Series:
Use Digital Tools Effectively to Enhance Student Learning
Now Available On-Demand!

- ✓ **Connection Math Instruction to the Real World**
- ✓ **New Directions in Classroom Assessment**
- ✓ **Using New Media to Enhance Student Writing**

More information and webinar registration

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/marketplace/webinars/webinars.html>

9 Systemic Processes To Raise Student Achievement



Nebraska Native American Education Symposium

October 31, 2011 > 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. > Wayne State College

Hosted by the Nebraska Department of Education and ESU 1.

Keynote Speakers from aha! Processes

Full day sessions. You must select K-6 or 7-12 session when registering.

This is a hands-on workshop where you will be able to walk into your classroom the following day with new, effective tools to use. Learn the nine teacher-friendly processes that are designed to raise student achievement. Simpler processes are key to this collegial model that is designed to take less time and yield strong results. Using the book, *Researched Based Strategies* and the workbook *9 Systemic Processes to Raise Achievement*, our presenters will walk clients through a model that creates sustainable excellence. Especially excellent for low performing schools, schools with demographic shifts, schools with students from poverty, and schools struggling to meet AYP with specific subgroups.



Kim D. Ellis
Presenter for K-6



Beverly Ray
Presenter for 7-12

Limited Registration: Deadline October 1, 2011

Registration is **strictly** limited to 200 participants per presenter. No exceptions. Registration will be a first come basis. Confirmations will be sent by October 10. Nebraska Department of Education will offer a waiting list for registrations.

COST: \$25 material fee per person (ESU 1 will invoice your school district or business.) Include all staff on one purchase order.

Recommended Audience

- K-12 classroom teacher
- Administrators
- NDE staff,
- ESU staff
- Guidance counselors
- School personnel directly involved in instruction of students.

How to register*



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ESU #1

Group and individual registration forms are available online at www.education.ne.gov/mce. Print and complete forms. To submit, use one of the following methods.

1. Fax registration form and purchase order to Peg Kirby at 402-471-8227
2. Scan in registration form and purchase order and email to peg.kirby@nebraska.gov
3. Mail registration form and purchase order

Peg Kirby
Nebraska Dept of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln NE 68509



Fill your life with color. Blend the color. Add bold accents, discover new shades.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES	Award	Eligibility	Deadline
<p>.Best Buy Children's Foundation: @15 Community Grants The Best Buy Children's Foundation @15 Community Grants empower teens to thrive by helping them excel in school, engage in their communities, and develop life and leadership skills. Maximum award: \$10,000. http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/community_grants_rfp.htm</p>	Maximum award: \$10,000.	nonprofit 501(c)3 certified organizations located within 50 miles of a Best Buy store or Regional Distribution Center that provide positive experiences that will empower early adolescents (primarily ages 13-18) to excel in school, engage in their communities, and develop life and leadership skills.	August 1, 2011.
<p>U.S. Department of State: Teachers for Global Classrooms The Teachers for Global Classrooms Program is a professional development opportunity for middle and high school teachers from the United States to participate in a program aimed at globalizing U.S. classrooms. Activities include an online course; two Global Education Symposiums in Washington, D.C. (pre- and post-travel); and an international fellowship through a two-week country visit upon successful completion of the online course. Maximum award: a fellowship, including two weeks' travel to Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco, or Ukraine. http://www.irex.org/project/teachers-global-classrooms-program-tgc</p>	International fellowship	Full-time secondary-level (middle or high school) teaching professionals with five or more years of classroom experience in disciplines including English as a Second Language, English Language or Literature, Social Studies, Mathematics, or Science, who are also U.S. citizens	June 15, 2011



Scholarships	Award	Eligibility	Deadline
<p>Earth Island Institute: Brower Youth Award The Earth Island Institute Brower Youth Award recognizes young people for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy. http://www.broweryouthawards.org/article.php?list=type&type=12</p>	Eligibility: youth ages 13-22. Deadline: May 16, 2011.	Maximum award: \$3,000, a trip to California for the awards ceremony, and a wilderness camping trip.	May 16, 2011
<p>Native American Version: Paying for College PDF file at our website http://www.education.ne.gov/mce/Grants.html#Student_Scholarships</p>			

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